The funds sanctioned by the Ministry of Tourism are utilized by the State Government for the implementation of the projects and monitored by the Ministry of Tourism from time to time through the Project Monitoring System/Site visits.

Potential of tourism in country

225. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that though India has a great potential for tourism, many tourist places in India still remain inaccessible;

(b) whether tourism department has made any survey of the tourism potential of India that tourism may attract million tourists and could create more employment; and

(c) whether Government has any prospective action plan to develop the infrastructure of tourism in important tourist places in different States including Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) Although the tourism sector in India has grown considerably in the recent years, it is felt that with India's vast bounties of nature, its great treasures of art, architecture and philosophical thought, its rich cultural heritage, its varied rural countryside and wildlife, and age-old practices of Yoga, Siddha, etc. spread across different States/UTs, there is immense tourism potential to tap, which can lead to further growth in tourism.

Development of tourism is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. However, to facilitate development of tourism in a systematic and holistic manner, the Ministry of Tourism had commissioned 20-Year Perspective Plans for States/ Union Territories, including Orissa, at the beginning of the Tenth Five Year Plan. These perspective plans, which give action plans for tourism development in the short term and long term, were sent to the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations to guide them in initiating action for development and promotion of tourism.

Water sharing

†226. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 34 per cent of the available water services in India, has its origin outside the country;

(b) if so, the names of the water sources and the names of the countries in which they are situated;

(c) whether Government has so far entered into any long term agreement for water sharing with the Governments of these countries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The main course or the tributaries of rivers Ganga-Brahmaputra-